

JOSHUA OKOLO CAN THINK

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joshua Okolo of Katy, Texas for winning the Texas Summer THINK Challenge.

Joshua, a student at Fielder Elementary, dedicated his summer to keeping his mind sharp. Over the course of the summer, he completed over 2,000 math problems—approximately 52 hours of math. What a great way to spend a summer. Thank you to his parents and teachers for encouraging Joshua to love and excel in math. We are all proud of your hard work.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Joshua for winning the Texas Summer THINK Challenge. What a way to strengthen your math skills.

**RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION WEEK**
HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor community foundations all across the country that embody the generosity of spirit that is such an important American value. Community Foundation Week was founded in 1989 and every November 12th–18th it honors the tremendous contributions of these organizations made up of Americans voluntarily working together to improve their communities. Since the first community foundation was founded in my home state of Ohio in 1914 these groups have filled a unique place in American society and provide assistance and inspiration to millions of people.

Today there are more than 750 community foundations in the United States, with 84 in Ohio, and several who serve communities in the 12th District such as the Delaware County Foundation, the Dublin Foundation, the Granville Foundation, the Licking County Foundation, the Morrow County Foundation, the Muskingum County Community Foundation, the Richland County Foundation, and the Columbus Foundation. These foundations work with their communities to make meaningful contributions in many areas like education, the arts, social services, and healthcare, and have provided millions of dollars over the years to these causes.

As just one example of the huge impact these foundations can have, the Licking County Foundation is working to transform a parking lot in downtown Newark into the Canal Market District through a \$4 million fund established by the Evans Foundation. The district will feature new walkways and green spaces centered around the Canal Market Plaza, three new structures that will form an open air farmer's market and provide a venue for many different events from the spring through the fall. This project would not be possible without years of working with local leaders, business owners, and the citizens of the community. Since the project was announced

last year, Denison University, Licking Memorial Health Systems, the City of Newark, Bon Appétit Management, USDA Rural Development and the Ohio and Licking County Farm Bureaus have all come forward to help with the district. This project will provide economic benefits to Newark, as well as increased access to fresh food.

The Columbus Foundation, the seventh largest community foundation in the nation, provides other great examples of the importance of community foundations. Recently, the Columbus Foundation set up a trust using a generous gift by David and Nanci Gobey that will allow graduates of Columbus City Schools to keep the instrument they have been using in high school. As a member of the marching band in high school and at The Ohio State University, I personally experienced how the arts can have an everlasting impact on one's life. The arts and art education are important for personal and intellectual growth of students and people of all ages. Music programs have been shown to increase academic performance, and programs like the one the Columbus Foundation facilitated help keep music in our schools and our students' lives despite a tough budgetary environment.

These examples merely hint at the outstanding work done by community foundations in central Ohio and all across the nation. I am honored to recognize Community Foundation Week this year, and acknowledge the tireless philanthropic efforts of these organizations to improve communities all across the country.

NLRB REFORM ACT
HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for too long, the partisan bias of the National Labor Relations Board—has caused instability in how the NLRB will interpret labor policy rules, harming employees and destroying jobs. The President's 'Big Labor Bully' has constantly abused its authority by overregulating and restricting right-to-work states.

Today, I have introduced the NLRB Reform Act to end the bias in the NLRB by adding a sixth member—establishing equal representation for each political party. It will benefit employers and employees and will help create jobs by reining in the unfair general counsel and enforcing timely decision-making.

A non-partisan board would restore fairness to promote new jobs. Last week, I announced my introduction of this legislation at Nephron Pharmaceuticals in Lexington County with CEO Lou Kennedy, Representative Todd Atwater, President of the South Carolina Manufacturer's Alliance Louis Gossett, and former CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce Otis Rawl; and at CommuniGraphics in North Augusta, with owners Mark and Tracy Cook, and Representative Bill Hixon.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism. Our sympathy for America's First Ally, France, as the latest target in the Global War on Terrorism.

**RECOGNIZING THE 40TH
ANNIVERSARY OF ARC OF YATES**
HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arc of Yates on its 40th anniversary.

Arc of Yates is a non-profit organization located in Penn Yan, New York. Since 1975, it has provided services to individuals with developmental disabilities, empowering them to lead "self-directed" and "meaningful" lives.

Arc of Yates serves more than 400 children, adults, and seniors across the Finger Lakes region. It provides a wide range of services, including day habilitation, residential living, employment training, and various educational opportunities. In addition, Arc of Yates offers several clinical programs, focusing on social work, nursing, and nutrition.

Last month, Arc of Yates reopened its facility in Penn Yan, less than eighteen months after it was badly damaged by devastating floods. This resiliency is a testament to their commitment to serving our local families and communities.

I commend the staff and volunteers of Arc of Yates on everything they have achieved in the past forty years, and I look forward to their continued efforts to empower our neighbors with disabilities to live independent and inclusive lives.

**TEXAS REAL ESTATE COMMISSION
APPOINTMENT**
HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rayito Stephens of Pearland, Texas on her appointment to the Texas Real Estate Commission by Governor Greg Abbott.

Mrs. Stephens is a licensed realtor and broker with over twenty-one years of experience. Throughout her career, she has been involved in almost every aspect of the real estate industry from home construction to real estate negotiation. She shows her big, Texas-sized heart by dedicating her time to helping veterans and people with disabilities become homebuyers. Rayito's appointment is a reflection of her impressive career and dedication to others.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Rayito Stephens on her appointment to the Texas Real Estate Commission. Governor Abbott made a great decision in selecting you.

H.R. 1694

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I asked unanimous consent that my name be removed as a co-sponsor of H.R. 1694.

I urged a change in the language to strengthen support for our veteran business